

RECOGNIZING PASTOR CHRIS WILLIAMSON ON THE OCCASION OF SERVING AS HONORARY CHAPLAIN

### HON. MARSHA BLACKBURN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, October 26, 2009*

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Pastor Chris Williamson of Franklin, Tennessee, as he serves as the House of Representatives Honorary Chaplain today.

The music industry brought Pastor Williamson to Middle Tennessee as a member of the Christian rap group, Transformation Crusade. As his music performance career concluded, however, he felt a calling to the pulpit.

In 1995, he founded the Strong Tower Bible Church and has built Strong Tower into one of Franklin's most dynamic and well-known churches. His commitment to racial reconciliation is evident through his work as an author, his mission work, as well as the intentional multi-ethnic and diverse background of his congregation. He is a devoted family man, and I appreciate the opportunity to represent his fine family in the Congress.

Please join me in honoring Pastor Williamson on his service to the House of Representatives today, and I wish him only the best in the years to come.

### LABOR HISTORY MONTH RESOLUTION

### HON. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, October 26, 2009*

Ms. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to support a Resolution expressing the sense of the House that a "National Labor History Month" should be established.

Today, most Americans work in clean, well-lit, well-ventilated, air-conditioned workplaces. So it is all too easy to forget the desperate conditions in which our grandparents and their grandparents often toiled. Child labor was commonplace. Workers were subjected to dangerous work environments, and were often forced to put themselves at risk of death or serious injury in order to put food on the table for their families. Women were especially attractive employees—because you could pay them less for the exact same work. The labor movement played a leading role in ending these inhumane and unfair practices. And for this, all modern Americans owe a debt of gratitude.

In addition to fighting against the exploitation of workers, labor leaders also played a significant role in the civil rights movement, fighting to end racial discrimination in the workplace. As early as World War II, labor leaders fought to end racial discrimination against African-Americans working in the defense industry. And Cesar Chávez's United Farmworkers Union fought not only for labor rights, but for equal rights for Latinos in countless walks of life. This resolution will help us pay tribute to those who put themselves on

the line for all of America's working men and women.

What they fought for represents the best of the American character. I urge all my colleagues to support this bi-partisan effort to recognize the importance of the labor movement to America's history.

### MASSAC COUNTY STATE GOLF CHAMPIONS

### HON. JOHN SHIMKUS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, October 26, 2009*

Mr. SHIMKUS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the achievements of a talented group of student-athletes from Massac County, Illinois.

The Massac County High School girls golf team took state championship honors this month at the Illinois High School Association's finals at the Crab Orchard Golf Club in Carterville. The Lady Patriots put on an impressive showing at the state finals, finishing 39 strokes ahead of the runner-up. Tala Mumford, of Massac County, shot a 163 for the tournament and was honored as top individual performer.

I want to congratulate Coach Kim Hille for her work with the team. But most of all, I want to congratulate the 2009 state champion girls golf squad from Massac County: Tala Mumford, Sammi Weber, Taylor King, Kristen Faulkner, Laura Bremer and Peyton Helm. They have represented themselves, their school and their community in an exemplary fashion and I want to join with all the members of this House in wishing them continued success in their athletic and academic endeavors.

### HONORING MARYBELL BRAZILE BAKEWELL

### HON. LAURA RICHARDSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, October 26, 2009*

Ms. RICHARDSON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Ms. Marybell Brazile Bakewell for her dedication to her family and community. Earlier this month, Ms. Bakewell passed away at Arcadia Methodist Hospital, at the age of eighty four.

Ms. Bakewell was born on April 10, 1925 and was the daughter of Edward and Camille Brazile. She spent over forty years in a loving relationship with her husband, Eddie Trepagnier. Ms. Bakewell graduated from Straights Business School where she received her secretarial certificate. As a result of hard work and determination, she was hired full time at the National Maritime Union. She committed herself wholeheartedly to her job and remained working there for over forty years until she retired.

Ms. Bakewell was a native of New Orleans until she recently had to relocate to Los Angeles, California after her beloved city was destroyed by Hurricane Katrina. While living in New Orleans she was a life member of St. Peter Claver Catholic Church and the Sisters of The Holy Family. Ms. Bakewell spent her entire life staying connected to family, school,

work, and her neighbors throughout the City of New Orleans. Her witiness, charming personality, and uplifting spirit shall remain a legacy in the hearts of many.

Even though she can no longer be with us physically, I know that Ms. Bakewell is very proud of her family, including her two children, Danny J. Bakewell, Sr. and Pamela A. Bakewell, both of whom are prominent in Los Angeles civic affairs. She is also survived by eight grandchildren and six great grandchildren. Family was always the highlight of her life and she will forever be remembered as the Matriarch of the Bakewell Family.

Madam Speaker, I invite my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to her remarkable life and extending our condolences to her family.

### EXTENSION OF COMMERCIAL SPACE TRANSPORTATION LI- ABILITY REGIME

SPEECH OF

### HON. SHEILA JACKSON-LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 20, 2009*

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise before you today in support of House Resolution 3819 "to extend the commercial space transportation liability regime." Extending this liability regime will ensure that commercial launches can continue to take place.

This indemnification regime has been in place since 1988 and has been renewed four times. It is an important element in maintaining the economic competitiveness of the domestic U.S. commercial launch services industry. The regime helps protect against catastrophic third-party liability claims when conducting Federal Aviation Administration (FAA)-licensed launch activities.

We are aware of the importance of the technological advances and services provided to the citizens of our nation as a result of the commercial launch industry—many of these services we all utilize on a daily basis. Allowing for these types of technologies to grow, prosper, and become more efficient and effective is an initiative that we want to continue. Ensuring progress in the commercial space industry by extending the current insurance indemnification regime will directly improve those initiatives.

As the Member of Congress representing Texas' 18th Congressional District in Houston, near NASA's Johnson Space Center, laws related to space programs and the commercial space industry are near and dear to me and my constituents. Laws relating to commercial space transportation provide tools to further the goals that were outlined in the Augustine Commission to chart our next steps into space. This industry provides jobs and keeps U.S.-based companies and technologies competitive in a global market. It is extremely important that we support the furtherance of this industry and the technological services it provides.

With soaring deficits facing our states and the looming costs of health care reform and energy reform before the nation, tough choices have been made. Surely, some argue that we cannot afford to gamble further money in space based initiatives.

Yet others, like me and my constituents realize the benefits of ensuring the continuance